

NSC BRIEFING

29 February 1956

NEW KARAMANLIS CABINET

BACKGROUND

- I. Prime Minister Karamanlis' new cabinet, sworn in on 29 February, appears to be a reshuffle of his previous cabinet, which was not regarded as particularly strong.
 - A. The appointment of Dimitrios Helmis as top economic minister is particularly subject to reservation, since he is associated with the economic failures of the Populist governments during 1946-50.
 - B. According to Minister without Portfolio Kassimatis, Helmis is considered the representative of the big financial and industrial interests and therefore incapable of carrying out a bold reform program.
 - C. Kassimatis says the new cabinet is weak and cannot last long in office.

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